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What is TRUVADA for PrEP?

TRUVADA for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a prescription medicine that is used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1. To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to prevent getting HIV. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about TRUVADA for PrEP?

Before taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-negative.
- ◆ **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** If you have flu-like symptoms, you could have recently become infected with HIV-1. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting or at any time while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- ◆ **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP:**
 - ◆ Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months.
 - ◆ If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- ◆ **To further help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1:**
 - ◆ Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
 - ◆ Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
 - ◆ Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
 - ◆ Do not miss any doses of TRUVADA. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- ◆ **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects:

- ◆ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV and stop taking TRUVADA, your HBV may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health.

Who should not take TRUVADA for PrEP?

Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- ◆ **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.** If you are HIV-1 positive, you need to take other medicines with TRUVADA to treat HIV-1. TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- ◆ **Also take** certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

What are the other possible side effects of TRUVADA for PrEP?

Serious side effects of TRUVADA may also include:

- ◆ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with TRUVADA. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **Too much lactic acid in your blood** (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ◆ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ◆ **Bone problems,** including bone pain, softening, or thinning, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP are stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRUVADA for PrEP?

- ◆ **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if TRUVADA can harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking TRUVADA for PrEP, talk to your healthcare provider to decide if you should keep taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can be passed to the baby in breast milk.
- ◆ **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. TRUVADA may interact with other medicines. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- ◆ **If you take certain other medicines** with TRUVADA, your healthcare provider may need to check you more often or change your dose. These medicines include certain medicines to treat hepatitis C (HCV) infection.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Important Facts about TRUVADA for PrEP including important warnings on the following page.



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TRUVADA for PrEP™ is a once-daily prescription medicine that can help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 when taken every day and used together with safer sex practices.

- ◆ TRUVADA for PrEP is only for adults who are at high risk of getting HIV through sex.
- ◆ You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

Ask your doctor about your risk of getting HIV-1 infection and if TRUVADA for PrEP may be right for you.

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MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Before starting TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must be HIV-1 negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-1 negative.
- **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include flu-like symptoms, tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you think you were exposed to HIV-1 or have a flu-like illness while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
- **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- See the "How To Further Reduce Your Risk" section for more information.

TRUVADA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA for PrEP is a prescription medicine used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1.

- To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Do NOT take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.**
- Take certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

HOW TO TAKE TRUVADA FOR PrEP

- **Take 1 tablet once a day, every day,** not just when you think you have been exposed to HIV-1.
- Do not miss any doses. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- Use TRUVADA for PrEP together with condoms and safer sex practices.
- Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months. You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

IMPORTANT FACTS

This is only a brief summary of important information about taking TRUVADA for PrEP[™] (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. This does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your medicine.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the "Most Important Information About TRUVADA for PrEP" section.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- Bone problems.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP include stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight.

These are not all the possible side effects of TRUVADA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with TRUVADA for PrEP.

BEFORE TAKING TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- Have any other medical conditions.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can pass to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRUVADA for PrEP.

HOW TO FURTHER REDUCE YOUR RISK

- Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
- Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
- Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
- Do not share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about TRUVADA for PrEP. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more, including how to prevent HIV infection.
- Go to start.truvada.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit start.truvada.com for program information.

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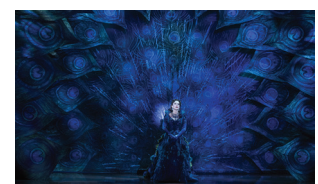
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ON THE COVER

Love Never Dies will be one of many productions hosted in the Twin Cities for the upcoming theatre season.

Photo by Joan Marcus

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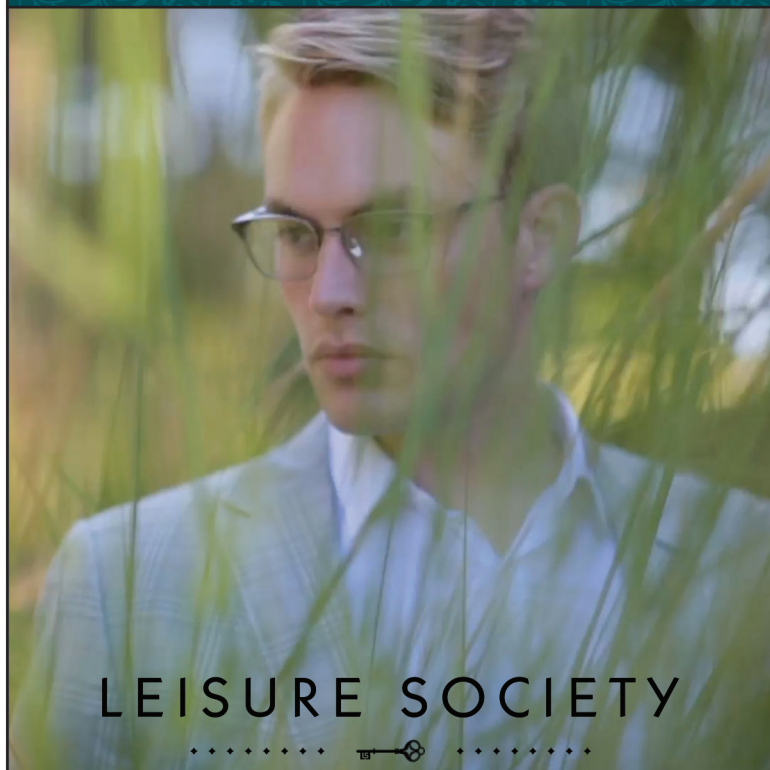
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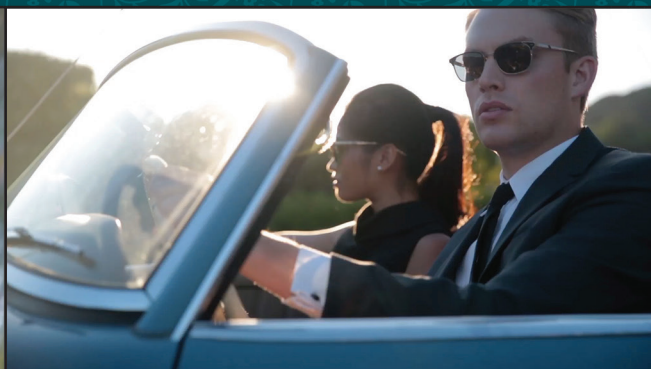
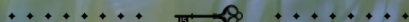
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Showtime!

I love me a good performance. Growing up, I was raised on musicals and theatre, harboring a healthy appreciation for performance art in general. In fact, I myself built an eclectic resumé for performance, having done choir for 11 years, performing in a variety of high school musicals, and even adding television and motion picture acting to my curriculum vitae later in my adult life.

For some—like yours truly—performance is absolutely intoxicating, a delightful and fulfilling means of letting loose one's creative steam and sharing your art with your audience. Doesn't matter if it's a Broadway production, a concert at a small-time venue, a comedy performance, or even a showstopper at the local karaoke joint: there's nothing quite like being in the spotlight.

Of course, being a spectator can be just as fulfilling, and believe you me that there are few things as thrilling as soaking in a damn good show. In 2007, I experienced my first Broadway show with the touring production of *Spamalot* in downtown Minneapolis. Going with my parents, I was just recovering from a bad case of mono, so my throat was shot. Of course, the show made me laugh so hard that I was unable to

talk for next day or so.

It's that kind of pure emotion that any show worth its salt should elicit. So if you're up to take in a show or three this season, we have just the issue for you! Our Spring Arts & Dining edition features dozens of upcoming shows, performances, and exhibitions to whet your appetites, and speaking of which, we've paired up quite a few of these shows with an appropriate restaurant to complete your dinner and a show experience!

Also, we take a sneak peek at Skylark Theatre's upcoming production of the transgender-themed opera *As One*, and we also meet the Duluth area's only two gay news anchors for good measure.

And remember how I mentioned my history as a performer? Well, you can get a small taste of that with our ongoing Big Gay News video series, where I voice our Big Gay Newscorn, Charming the Unicorn, five days a week! Be sure to check out the newscast every Monday through Friday on our Facebook and Twitter pages, as well as on Lavender's website. Excelsior! ■

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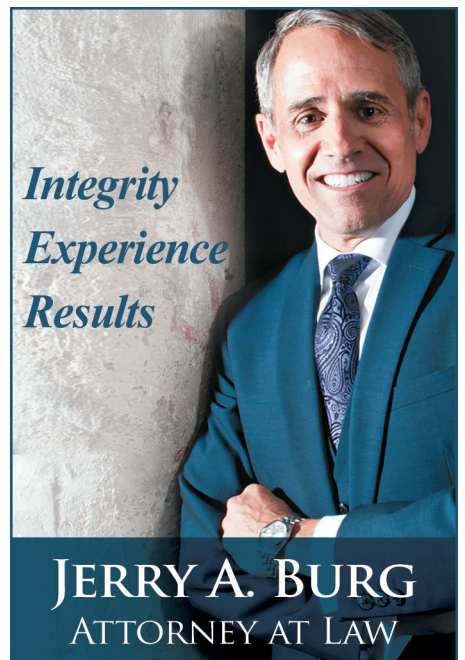
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Scholem Asch in the Bardo

Paula Vogel's *Indecent* was conceived in 1906, when Scholem Asch penned *God of Vengeance*. The furor it caused in 1923 reverberated through time into the hands of Vogel and co-creator Rebecca Taichman, who each had read it earlier, and had remained enthralled. After years of Taichman mining archives, countless discussions, and Vogel's 42 drafts, *Indecent* was fledged.

Vogel conjures Asch's long-dead actors to wake, shaking dust from their clothing as they rise to interpret *Vengeance's* story. From 1906 to 1952, they career about from Poland to New York to Lodz Ghetto and back to Staten Island, home now to the embittered Asch, through fragmented "blinks of time," backlit tableaux, shifting languages, multi-cast actors, and three musicians.

First produced in Berlin in 1910, *God of Vengeance* played to great acclaim throughout Europe; from about 1913, it thrived in the States—in Yiddish. In 1922, it graduated from bohemian Greenwich Village to Broadway's Apollo Theatre—in English translation. Six weeks later, the vice squad descended, the play was shut down; attorney Harry Weinberger, director and attorney, Rudolph Schildkraut, noted Jewish immigrant actor, the Apollo's owner, and entire cast indicted on charges of "unlawfully advertising, giving, presenting, and participating in an obscene, indecent, immoral and impure drama or play."

God of Vengeance concerns an observant Jewish couple, determined to guard daughter Rifkele's purity until she's married off to a respectable Yeshiva student. To this end, father Yekel has commissioned a lavish Torah scroll to gain respectability. Yekel, however, runs a brothel in their basement, and wife Sarah is an ex-sex worker. Daughter Rifkele shuns marriage, is drawn instead to Manke, one of Yekel's workers. This pair give Broadway its first lesbian kiss, and, in Asch's original script, they shared a sensuous, rhapsodic scene clinging together under a soaking rain. Afterwards, Yekel discovers Rifkele downstairs and in a paroxysm of rage desecrates the Torah scroll, hurling it down. Rifkele is no longer pure, probably not because Yekel recognizes the girls' relationship, but because Rifkele has trespassed, crossing the boundary separating the decent from the *indecent*.

Written when Henry Ford was labeling Jews "un-American," when immigration laws were tightened to stem the floods from Eastern Europe, and pogroms were rife, Asch's tale of flawed, *human* Jews, made Jewish viewers fear increased antisemitism. Asch's *Indecent* character questions, "Why must every Jew onstage be a paragon?" To which another replies, "This is not the time. You are pouring petrol on the flames of anti-Semitism."

While the lesbian kiss remained, the lyrical rain scene which Vogel makes central to *Indecent* was cut. Her spirited actors complain vehemently; this violation implies Manke has only the sordid motive of recruiting Rifkele for monetary gain. The historical judge McIntyre did not mention lesbianism, but pinned the "obscenity" on the desecration of the Torah scroll, explaining it is "as sacred to Jewish audiences as the Host is to Roman Catholics." Was *Vengeance's* obscenity the lesbianism, or its inherent Jewishness?

Vogel reinstates the rain scene in several iterations, noting in an NPR interview, "Believe it or not, it's actually the purest love scene I've ever read, akin to *Romeo and Juliet*. And that [was] an extraordinary, radical act, not only for 1907, but I would say for 2017." Vogel celebrates the women's pure love, the vibrant, vanished Yiddish culture, the fragility of one's place in time. Dust falling from the dead actors' clothing evokes ash from concentration camp crematories; the falling rain redeems, affirming the endurance of art and love.

"I don't think of this as a grim play," Vogel responded in a 2016 interview before *Indecent's* initial Vineyard Theater production. "I think about it as a love story in terrible times. If we love music and theatre and the arts, if we take solace in people sitting beside us in the theatre, if we do what is in our hearts, I think there is light for us. I think the power of us being together in a community gives us light through the darkness... I think the power of art is the power to wound our memory. I think the power of art is a way for us to change our world view. I think art is our spiritual bread that we break together."

Indecent plays at the Guthrie through March 24. ■



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Orpheum Theatre

www.hennepintheatretrust.org

June 26-July 1, 2018

In the sequel to Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*, the luminous soprano Christine goes to New York to sing at an esteemed opera house. Unfortunately, her handsome husband Raoul has hit the bottle and the cards as well. Therefore, the Phantom seizes the vulnerability of her situation.

INDECENT

Wurtele Thrust Stage,
Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org
through March 24, 2018

Lesbian master playwright Paula Vogel muses on the 1923 Broadway debut of Sholem Asch's *God of Vengeance*, about a Jewish brothel owner and the lesbian romance between his daughter and one of his employees. The actors were arrested for performing this play. Was it because of its kiss between two women, antisemitism, or both?

Restaurant Pairing: ZEN BOX IZAKAYA

Perhaps the best pre-Guthrie gathering spot, Zen Box is perfect for a pre-show nosh and tipple, especially if you like Japanese bar food. And if you're not quite sure what Japanese bar food is, you're in for a real treat. Crispy fried chicken, handmade ramen, and melt-in-your-mouth pork belly are among my personal favorites.

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DISNEY'S NEWSIES

Chanhasen Dinner Theatres
www.chanhassentheatres.com
March 2-Sept. 29, 2018

Extra! Extra! Read all about it and see it live at the nation's premiere dinner theater! New York City's Newsboys Strike of 1899 came about because the greedy New York World publisher—Joseph Pulitzer—raised the price of his product without telling the young boys who distribute them. When they dare to strike, under the leadership of Jack Kelly, they make child labor history.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: CHANHASSEN DINNER THEATRE

Perhaps the easiest pairing on the list for obvious reasons, Chanhasen Dinner Theatre takes dinner and a show to a whole new level. Literally. Every time I sit down to enjoy a meal at this classic Twin Cities theater venue, I'm immediately reminded how the food matches the magic happening on stage. Don't miss the Chicken Chanhasen.

CORDUROY

Children's Theatre Company
www.childrenstheatre.org
March 6-May 20, 2018

The search for his missing button motivates Corduroy the teddy bear to look through every section of the department store. He fears the night watchman will find him before he finds the button. But there's also a chance he will finally find a home with a caring little girl named Lisa. Indeed, the stakes are high for adorable Corduroy!

FAMILIAR

McGuire Proscenium Stage, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org
March 10-April 14, 2018

A Zimbabwean-American couple prepare for their daughter's Minnesota wedding. When the daughter requests a traditional African blessing before she marries her white fiancé from Minnetonka, a surprise guest shows up with some discombobulating news. A unique look at life in Minnesota written by Danai Gurira. Directed by Taibi Magar.

GUYS AND DOLLS

Old Log Theater
www.oldlog.com

March 10-June 16, 2018

One of the most dynamic of Broadway musicals. Composer-lyricist Frank Loesser exuberantly reimagined the gritty realm of Damon Runyon's mythical New York, where gangsters and gamblers sing and dance their way through Gotham's underworld. From the night clubs scene to the Salvation Army to cafes down Cuba way in Havana, soak up fabulous tunes like "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat," "If I Were a Bell," and "A Bushel and a Peck!"

RESTAURANT PAIRING: CAST & CRU AT OLD LOG THEATER

Not quite dinner theater, but dinner and theater in the same place sounds just as nice, no? The Old Log Theater is a wonderfully warm and inviting venue with a talented chef-driven dining spot built-in right onsite. Grab your special someone for a beautiful drive out to Lake Minnetonka, enjoy an amazing meal, then settle in for a night of great local theater.

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A PEOPLE'S HISTORY

Dowling Studio, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org

March 14-March 31, 2018

Actor-writer Mike Daisey contrasts his view of American history as gleaned from a textbook a quarter century earlier with Howard Zinn's popular progressive history work, *The People's History of the United States*. Performed as a monologue, Daisey covers the vast contested period between the landing of Christopher Columbus in 1492 to the 2016 election.

THE GREAT DIVIDE II: PLAYS ON THE POLITICS OF TRUTH

Pillsbury House + Theatre

www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org

March 14-25, 2018

Beliefs vs. Truth. Beliefs Vs. Facts. These conflicts are inherent in politics. Five playwrights meditate on how beliefs might become embedded in what we think of as facts. Among these, playwright Stacey Rose has created a lesbian character confronted by nuclear holocaust. Pillsbury House is known for its assertive look into hot-button political issues.

OSCAR WILDE'S THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

Theatre in the Round Players

www.theatreintheround.org

March 16-April 8, 2018

We know that Oscar Wilde was a gay master playwright who went to prison and died in exile and in poverty. But Wilde also mastered fiction writing, in which he infused a sense of the macabre. We know of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, but there was also the very different *The Canterville Ghost*, in which the proverbial Wildean sense of humor actually shines through anyway. TRP offers a stage version of his ghostly short story.

The
Canterville
Ghost



Photo by Bob Suh

RIGOLETTO

Minnesota Opera

at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

www.mnopera.org

March 17-31, 2018

The backstory: Victor Hugo's heretical 1832 play *The King Has Fun* was forced by authorities to shut down after its first performance. However, it was reincarnated in operatic form by Giuseppe Verdi two decades later and became one of opera's milestone works. This sordid tale of seduction, assassins, and an unscrupulous court jester in service of his debauched royalist master is presented by a top-notch opera company.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: PAZZALUNA

Just across Rice Park from the Ordway is a classic of authentic Italian cookery perfect for pre-Verdi victuals. Bright murals mix with the even brighter flavors across a range of iconic Italian dishes. Meatballs, frito misto, and a killer ossobuco easily gird the constitution for vengeful, albeit delicious, tragedy.

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www.ordway.org

April 3-8, 2018

Gay master playwright Harvey Fierstein's greatest work since the watershed *Torch Song Trilogy*. Camp flourish has seldom been this marvelous as a stylish performer named Lola transforms a shoe factory into a supplier of elegant stiletto high heels. Songs by the iconic pop star Cyndi Lauper.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: SAKURA

Just a few blocks away from the Ordway is a wonderful gem of a Japanese restaurant. In fact, it's one of the most well known in the Twin Cities. Whether you're in the mood for a light flight of sushi favorites or a heaping helping of traditional Japanese comfort food, Sakura always sates.

A WIFE'S TALE

Theatre Unbound

at Gremlin Theatre

www.theatreunbound.com

March 24-April 8, 2018

Three decades ago, much of the world was on edge because of the exceeding proliferation of nuclear weapons by the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The storage of nuclear waste also became the cause for major protests. That said, the dangers of nukes still persist and playwright Christina Ham, who gives us the dystopic *Crash Test Dummies*, muses on that in *A Wife's Tale*. She more recently wrote *Nina Simone: Four Women*.



Photo by William Clark

THE WOLVES

The Jungle Theater

www.jungletheater.com

March 31-April 29, 2018

Playwright Sarah Delappe examines a group of high school girls during their soccer warm-ups. Each scene is framed by the actresses portraying stretching routines. Within this structure we see personal conflicts, crises involving well-being, and the struggle of the new girl fitting in. A finalist for last year's Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

DANCE 'TIL YOU DROP

COLLIDE Theatrical Dance Company

at The History Theatre

www.collidetheatrical.org

March 24-April 15, 2018

Dance marathons were perversely popular

in the 1930s during the economic strife of the Great Depression. The brutal "Dance 'Til You Drop" phenomenon is most widely recalled in the film classic *They Shoot Horses Don't They?* Now, the true story of a world marathon record set in Minneapolis is told by COLLIDE Theatrical Dance and the History Theatre.

SOMETHING ROTTEN!

Orpheum Theatre

www.hennepintheatretrust.org

April 3-8, 2018

Two playwright brothers in Renaissance England feel thwarted and frustrated by the fact that William Shakespeare dominates the theater scene. However, fortune shines when a soothsayer predicts they will create the very first musical ever! Never before have audiences seen dancing, singing, and acting all in the same genre!

RESTAURANT PAIRING: BRIT'S PUB

What better way to whet the appetite for a little Shakespeare-era laughter than a little hop across the culinary pond for some inspiration? Brit's Pub is an unnecessarily oft-forgotten hotspot of British food fun with traditional favorites like bangers & mash, fish & chips, and, of course, their famous scotch eggs.

STILL DANCE THE STARS

Yellow Tree Theatre

www.yellowtreetheatre.com

April 13-May 13, 2018

A married couple faces an unthinkable loss. In addition, their dance studio is faced with the real possibility of closing down. However, something magical happens when they find a box containing stuffed animals. This inspires a dance that can potentially heal broken hearts and spirits.



Photo by Jeremy Daniel

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FIVE POINTS

Theater Latté Da
www.theaterlatteda.com
April 4-May 6, 2018

The year is 1863, right smack in the middle of the Civil War period. Two men—a young black performer and a former jig champion of Irish descent—take colossal risks in realizing their American Dreams. A new work from Theater Latté Da. Choreography by Kelli Foster Warder.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: THE SHERIDAN ROOM

One of my favorite little theaters in Minneapolis is right next door to one of my favorite little restaurants. The Sheridan Room serves up a solid scratch-made menu of comfort food classics, perfect for a pre-show nibble in Northeast. Highlights include the juicy beer can chicken, super sumptuous mac and cheese, and the burger.

MERMAID HOUR: REMIXED

Mixed Blood Theatre
www.mixedblood.com
April 6-29, 2018

David Valdes Greenwood's play looks at working class parents dealing with their daughter's gender transition. Opposing parenting styles and their own marital issues add to the mix, along with their child's first crush, the intensity of puberty, and the internet serving as a pivotal source for the answers to difficult questions.

FOLLIES

Schneider Theater, Artistry at Bloomington Center for the Arts
www.btacmn.org
April 14-May 6, 2018

Perhaps the greatest Stephen Sondheim musical. The bittersweet nostalgia for lost youth and lost love is unforgettable as rendered with apparitions of the Ziegfeld Follies and their luminescent dancers. An old theater structure on the verge of demolition spirits forth memories of all the fabulous performances that played there long ago. And a reunion of older performers adds to the wistfulness of it all.

Mermaid Hour: Remixed



Photo by Rich Ryan

DR. SEUSS'S THE LORAX

Children's Theatre Company
www.childrenstheatre.org
April 15-June 10, 2018

A fable for environmental protection that speaks out on behalf of the trees. In the Dr. Seuss rhyming classic adapted for the stage, silky soft tufts of Truffula trees are in great demand for knitting. Is this really worth losing all the trees for?! The Children's Theatre is a sure bet for manifesting the stylized, whimsical world of Dr. Seuss.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: QUANG

Just a hop, skip and jump from the Children's Theatre is an all-time favorite of mine with a story all its own to tell. While there are several life-changing Vietnamese restaurants throughout the Twin Cities, the indefatigable Quang will always be my go-to. Full of fresh, vibrant, yet soul-warming comfort food Vietnamese classic, Quang is a family tradition.

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

Proscenium Stage, Park Square Theatre
www.parksquaretheatre.org
April 19-28, 2018

The 14-year-old girl who kept a diary while hiding from the Nazis in her Amsterdam home provided one of the greatest works ever written by a child. Her diary was only discovered by chance and she never knew of the unprecedented impact she would have on our planet because she perished after being sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. Park Square revives the diary's beloved stage adaptation.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: FOREPAUGH'S

The maze-like myriad of nine different rooms in this beautiful 19th century Victorian St. Paul mansion makes for a magical night of dining. The contrasting new American cuisine leaves your taste buds equally dazzled. Not far from Park Square Theatre, you're in for a perfect pre-theater night experience.



Photo by Joan Marcus

Jersey Boys

JERSEY BOYS

Orpheum Theatre
www.hennepintheatretrustrust.org
April 24-29, 2018

One of the great rock musicals. Relish the success story of the tuneful pals from New Jersey who would ascend to pop music royalty. The Four Seasons' sound was truly unique. Lead singer Frankie Valli, with his signature high pitch piercing through, gloried in such pop classics as "Big Girls Don't Cry" and "Rag Doll." In contrast is the smooth and unforgettable "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You." Winner of the Tony, Grammy, and the Olivier.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: MURRAY'S

Get in the mood for Broadway and vintage Big Apple with a time travel trip back to a Minneapolis classic still cranking out one of the best steaks in town. Murray's has been making steaks melt in your mouth for 70 years and lives up to legend.

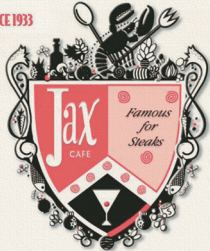


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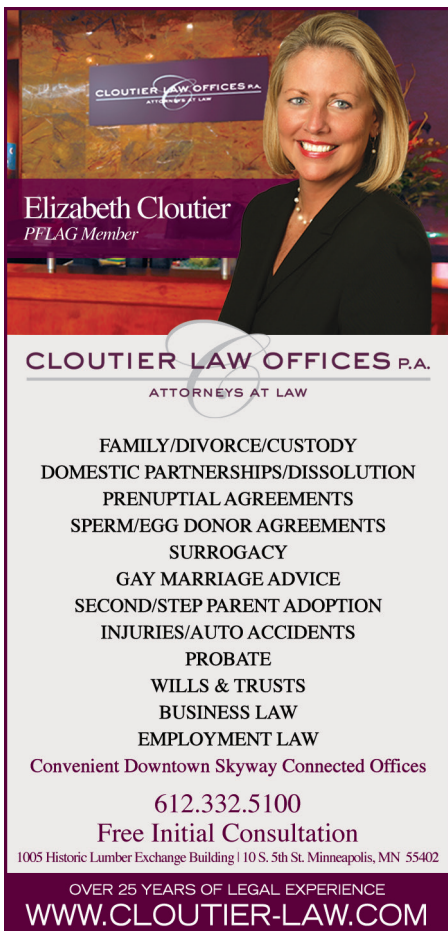
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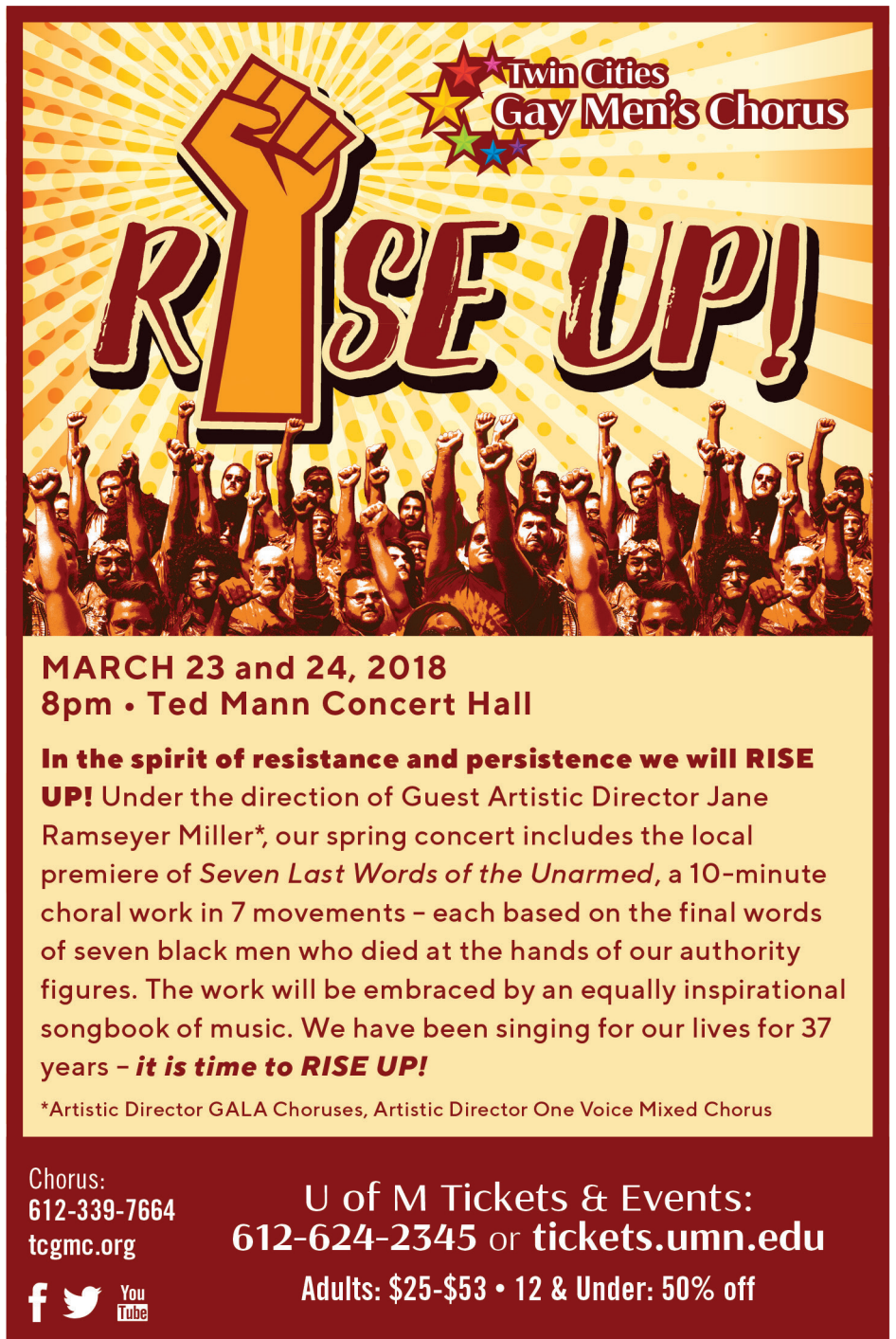
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GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

Wurtele Thrust Stage, Guthrie Theater
www.guthrietheater.org

April 7-May 27, 2018

One of the biggest movie box office hits of the '60s and nominee for Best Picture of 1967 has been adapted for the stage. A white upper-middle-class couple find themselves confronted by their own previously unconscious prejudice when their daughter requests their marriage blessing. For them, the rub is this: she plans to wed an African-American man 14 years her senior.

THIS BITTER EARTH

Penumbra Theatre Company
www.penumbraetheatre.org

April 24-May 20, 2018

It's not often that we see a gay-themed play at the prestigious African-American theater the Penumbra, but this recent poetic script by Harrison David Rivers has been one hot property! A wealthy white man who advocates for civil rights and an introspective black playwright soon find that their love meets challenges in a time when extrajudicial killings of black men are happening.

ON OUR OWN TERMS: VOICES AT THE INTERSECTION OF TRANSGENDER EXPERIENCE AND MIXED BLOOD THEATRE

Mixed Blood Theatre
www.mixedblood.com

April 27-28, 2018

Three plays dealing with transgender themes will be given voice. One is written by a trans playwright with a cast that includes gender-nonconforming actors. Another has a trans main character written by a cisgender Latino playwright. Another cisgender playwright creates a work for a cast of trans and gender-



Artwork by Archie Bongiovanni

On Our Own
Terms

Graphic courtesy of Andy Weaverling

nonconforming members. It's theme will be trans-inclusive and metaphorical.

THE METROMANIACS

Theatre in the Round Players
www.theatreintheround.org

April 27-May 20, 2018

The term "metronamie" means "crazy for poetry." This 18th century French farce revels in one of the great conceits of comedy, mistaken identity, as well as one of the prime elements of much classical drama: rhymed verse. Young Damis has fallen in love with a mysterious poetess, not knowing that she is really a middle-aged man.

SOFT BOUNDARIES

Gamut Gallery
www.gamutgallerympls.com

April 28-May 18, 2018

The celebrated Eliot Park-based art exhibition space Gamut Gallery will host its latest exhibition *Soft Boundaries*, which will examine presentational vulnerability and boundaries

tested through the violation of intimate spaces. Curated by Juleana Enright, the exhibit will feature artwork by nine artists—many of them being artists of color, transgender, queer and non-binary-identifying—including Blair Moore, Lamia Abukhadra, Mikki Coleman, Zeam Porter and Uncle Reezy. According to the gallery, the exhibition will illustrate how vulnerability can be used as an act of resistance and healing. There will also be a special performance night on May 3.

UNDER THIS ROOF

Dowling Studio, Guthrie Theater
www.guthrietheater.org

May 4-20, 2018

Former Lavender Magazine Performer of the Year, Barbara Kingsley, and a Lavender Best Supporting Actor, James A. Williams, steer this project. The setting is 1940s Cleveland, Ohio, where a serious accident is suffered and racial differences suffuse the community. The race, gender, disability concerns, and power struggles may have happened two generations ago but they still have relevance.



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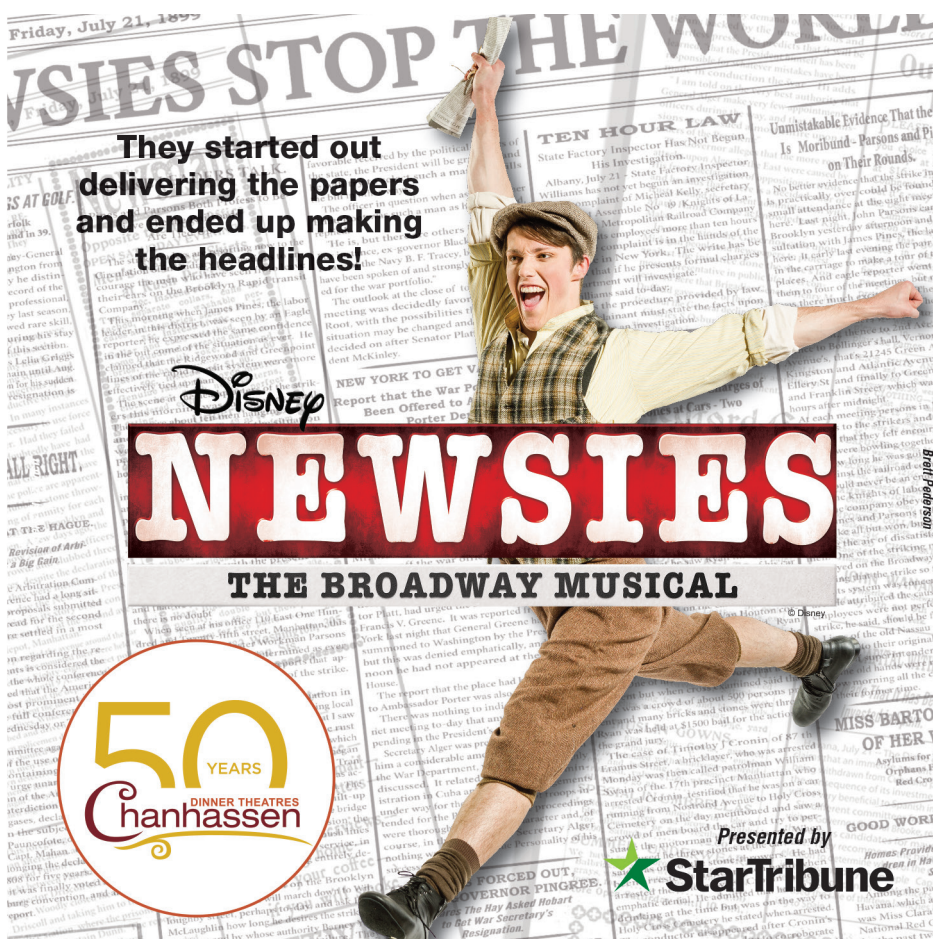
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Photo by Galen Higgins

CANDY BOX DANCE FESTIVAL
ARENA Dances
 at The Southern Theater
www.arena-dances.org
 May 4-12, 2018

Mathew Janczewski's ARENA DANCES had been a notable dance company for more than two decades. Janczewski is known for the sensuality and intensity of his performance work. This second Candy Box Dance Festival features workshops and live performances in the historic Southern Theater.

LORD GORDON GORDON
History Theatre
www.historytheatre.com
 May 5-June 3, 2018

The History Theatre has a knack for uncovering stories from Minnesota's past and shaping them into engaging theater. The first rate duo that created *Glensheen*—Jeffrey Hatcher and Chan Poling—take on one of smarmiest swindlers in state history. The infamous con artist Lord Gordon Gordon wormed his way into the hearts and minds of certain wealthy Minnesotans in the 1870s. Find out just how he did it!

THAÏS
Minnesota Opera
 at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts
www.mnopera.org
 May 12-20, 2018

The conundrum of the spirit vs. the flesh ignites the passionate Jules Massenet opera based on the novel by Anatole France. In fourth century Egypt under Roman rule, a monk tries to convert a courtesan and devo-



tee of the goddess Venus to early Christianity. His religious zeal, however, conceals his lust. Acclaimed soprano Kelly Kaduce plays the vocally challenging title role.

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
McGuire Proscenium Stage, Guthrie Theater
www.guthrietheater.org
 April 28-June 3, 2018

Henrik Ibsen is known as the Father of Mod-

ern Drama. He was the first modern European to boldly put forth controversial socioeconomic political themes as a steady diet. In *An Enemy of the People*, we see the public reaction when it is discovered that the water in a Norwegian town is polluted. What's an awful predicament in the first place is heightened because its renowned public baths are a destination for well-financed visitors to relax and heal. In other words, the town's livelihood is at stake.

DAT BLACK MERMAID MAN LADY / THE SHOW
Pillsbury House + Theatre
www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org
 May 30-June 17, 2018

Playwright Sharon Bridgforth draws from Yoruba deities and the idea that the ways of embodying gender are vast. Some of the characters include HoneyPot, Miss Kitty and dat Black Mermaid man lady. The piece is described as a processional with audience interaction welcome.

UNDERNEATH THE LINTEL
Theater Latté Da
www.theaterlatteda.com
 May 30-July 1, 2018

Glen Berger's solo drama is a detective story and a quest at the same time. The character is a Dutch librarian who has never left her home town. But when a travel guide book that is 113 years overdue is actually returned to the library, she is more than intrigued! A clue scribbled in a margin and an unclaimed dry-cleaning ticket spur her on to get the bottom of this very curious situation.

LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILL
The Jungle Theater
www.jungletheater.com
 May 26-June 24, 2018

Be transported back to 1959 to an intimate bar in Philadelphia where legendary blues singer Billie Holiday sang one of her last gigs. Thomasina Petrus stars as the woman whose life was ripped apart by drugs and alcohol. Hear the tunes that made the blues icon famous. This award-winning play with music will be directed by Marion McClinton, known for his exceptional productions of African-American drama.

RESTAURANT PAIRING:
BLUE DOOR PUB

Some nights you just want a really good burger, whether you're headed to the theater or not. There are fewer satisfying beefy wonders than the Blucy's at Blue Door. These signature cheese-stuffed packages of joy are the stuff of burger legend. And because you're already in a festive mood, make room for the nacho totchos and SPAM bites.



Photo by William Clark

CHICAGO

Orpheum Theatre
www.hennepintheatretrust.org
June 5-10, 2018

Kander and Ebb's musical phenomenon with its Bob Fosse-style choreography, so glidingly angular and erotic, makes for a potent vision of Chicago's gangster culture of the 1920s. A vaudevillian performance style embodies a show that entertains marvelously while exposing the criminal underworld during Prohibition.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: MERCY

Right across the street from the Orpheum, I can't think of a better dazzling dinner spot to pair with one of my favorite dazzling Broadway shows. Executive chef Mike Rakun and his business partner wife Abby Rakun are telling a story with Mercy, just as inviting and even more delicious than the one you'll watch on the other side of Hennepin.

POSTMORTEM

Theatre in the Round Players
www.theatreintheround.org
June 1-24, 2018

Comedic playwright Ken Ludwig transports



Photo by Paul Kolnik

us back to a real person—William Gillette—who gained fame for playing Sherlock Holmes for three decades. When fellow actors visit his Connecticut castle home, a late-night seance is held. But rather than being charmed by the novelty of it, they are shocked to discover that a murder has been committed!

EQUIVOCATION

Walking Shadow Theatre Company
at Gremlin Theatre
www.walkingshadowcompany.org

June 9-24, 2018

Four centuries before 9/11, the terrorist Gunpowder Plot against England's monarch, James I, rocked not only the British Isles, but the Western World as well. However, like many such events, rumors abound that the official story may not be reliable. *Equivocation* explores that when a man named "Shagspeare" is hired to investigate and write a "true historie" of the nefarious plot.

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CAROL BURNETT

Orpheum Theatre

www.hennepintheatretrust.org

June 15-16, 2018

Few living comedians, or as she was referred to until the 1990s, comediennes, have endured like the one and only Carol Burnett. From the Historic Orpheum stage she will field questions reminiscent of the openings of her classic television variety show. Video clips and her personal reflections will comprise what promises to be a lovely evening at the Orpheum.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: REVIVAL

It might not be particularly venue-adjacent (you've got a Minneapolis and St. Paul location to choose from), but an evening with the best comedian in the country deserves the best country food in the city. Revival offers up life-changing ribs, brisket, and southern fried chicken. Do yourself a favor and go crazy with sides, especially grits, mac and cheese, and slaw.

KEN LUDWIG'S BASKERVILLE: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY

Proscenium Stage, Park Square Theatre

www.parksquaretheatre.org

June 15-Aug. 5, 2018

Five actors play over 40 comic characters from the kinetically kooky playwright, Ken Ludwig of *Lend Me a Tenor* fame. A fabled



Photo by V. Paul Virtucio

French
Twist



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Opera

Fellow
Travelers

detective sets out to solve a notorious case at a very brisk pace. Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson explore what's behind the threat of bloodthirsty hounds on the English moors. Scary! But bright fun too!

FELLOW TRAVELERS

Minnesota Opera

at The Cowles Center for the Performing Arts

www.mnopera.org

June 16-23, 2018

The McCarthy Era in Washington D.C. is the setting for an opera. A recent college graduate and a State Department official meet by chance in a time when homosexual relations within the government could get you fired and stigmatized from then onward. The McCarthy witch hunt targeted suspected Communists and "sexual subversives."

FRENCH TWIST

Flying Foot Forum

at Andy Boss Thrust Stage, Park Square Theatre

www.parksquaretheatre.org

June 22-July 15, 2018

The pre-eminent percussive dance troupe, the Flying Foot Forum, and its auteur choreographer, Joe Chvala, reprises its stylishly zany look at life from the vantage point of a Paris sidewalk cafe and an underground nightclub. Soak in the street life, a buffoonish King, and to top it all off, eleven male dancers dressed as women who perform the Can-can!

RESTAURANT PAIRING: MERITAGE

An evening of French theatre set on a Paris sidewalk screams out for Meritage. Couples would do well to make a meal at this award-winning French Brasserie. It's the perfect little place for a romantic nibble prior to a St. Paul production. If the chilled lobster is still on the menu, do yourself (and your relationship) a favor and order it.

ROOTS & WINGS: 30 YEARS WITH ONE VOICE

One Voice Mixed Chorus

at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

www.ordway.org

June 23-24, 2018

One Voice Mixed Chorus celebrates three decades of musical expression. This wonderful group is comprised of GLBT folks and straight supporters of the GLBT community. The multigenerational group will perform such favorites as "Gay vs. Straight Composers" and "Lesbian Second Date Moving Service."

THE KOREAN DRAMA ADDICT'S GUIDE TO LOSING YOUR VIRGINITY

Andy Boss Thrust Stage, Park Square Theatre

www.parksquaretheatre.org

July 27-Aug. 19, 2018

Randy Reyes directs the May Lee-Yang comedy of star-crossed lovers. She is a Hmong personality coach addicted to soap operas with fantasy plotlines. He is an heir to Korean manufacturing fortune. She is up against the clock to marry before her 30th birthday. He wrestles with the traditional expectations of what a "good son" is supposed to align with. Will they connect?!

WEST SIDE STORY

Wurtele Thrust Stage, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org

June 16-Aug. 26, 2018

This 1957 musical was groundbreaking in its depiction of interracial divisions between young Puerto Rican immigrants and young poor whites on the mean streets of New York. The gang warfare dynamics were built into the show then by gay choreographer Jerome Robbins. Gay playwright Arthur Laurents's book for *West Side Story* was inspired by Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* with unforgettable music by Leonard Bernstein and soul-stirring lyrics by the young Stephen Sondheim.

BEEHIVE: THE '60S MUSICAL

Old Log Theater

www.oldlog.com

June 29-Sept. 22, 2018

One of the coolest jukebox musicals ever! The popular tunes of popular female singers of the 1960s remind us (thankfully) that The Beatles and Bob Dylan were not the only game in town during that dynamic decade. Six women reflect on a range of things from their first Beehive Dance to issues of the day. And winding through all that are favorite songs like "Be My Baby" and "Me and Bobby McGee."

JEEVES IN BLOOM

Theatre in the Round Players

www.theatreintheround.org

July 6-29, 2018

The name "Jeeves" has become synonymous with the term "valet." A manservant for a man of the British upper class was likely to know his employer as well, if not better, than anyone else. It was humorist author P.G. Wodehouse who named his recurring fictional valet Jeeves. The man of means he is attached to, Bertie Wooster, visits a country home where desire, burglary, and a homicidal French chef make for rollicking fun.

RESTAURANT PAIRING: EASTSIDE

It is neither cliché nor hyperbole to say Eastside has it all. Perfectly situated along Washington Avenue, this aesthetically beautiful eatery is wonderfully inviting, along with a thoughtful menu and a staff clearly passionate about offering guests a memorable meal.

NOT EVERY MOUNTAIN

Dowling Studio, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org

July 7-15, 2018

The experimental performance collective the Rude Mechs, aka Rude Mechanicals, has been seen, as one might expect, at the Walker Art Center. So the fact that the Guthrie Theater is having the group from Austin, Texas develop an original work about change and permanence, extends their reach away from classics into the avant-garde. Performers use string, cardboard, and magnets to make mountains that rise, shift and grow.

THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE

McGuire Proscenium Stage, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org

July 14-Aug. 26, 2018

Matthew Lopez's popular play shines with an Elvis impersonator who transforms into a drag artist after he loses his gig at a bar. But the driving impetus for Casey to make that change is the need to provide for the baby his wife is expecting. When a drag show moves into his sphere, he hears the muse, and makes his way to unexpected stardom.

HAND TO GOD

The Jungle Theater

www.jungletheater.com

July 21-Aug. 19, 2018

Hand
to God



Photo by William Clark

Robert Askins's award-winning satire uses puppets to channel subconscious and semi-conscious hostilities. When his father dies, a meek fellow named Jason takes part in The Christian Puppet Ministry. This triggers a revolt within his psyche that reveals a dangerous irreverence, that of course, is anything but meek.

THE SEX SHOW

Dowling Studio, Guthrie Theater

www.guthrietheater.org

Aug. 10-19, 2018

Sun Mee Chomet is an accomplished actress known for her ferocity in the Guthrie's *King Lear* and for personal revelation in *How to Be Korean Woman*, her solo show. With *The Sex Show*, we get to see her talent as a director. This new movement theater piece features an ensemble of Twin Cities Asian-American artists who will explore stereotypes, sexuality, and Asian-American identity. It aims to encourage discussion about a taboo subject. ■



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Luke Williams, left, portrays Hannah before, while Bergen Baker, right, portrays Hannah after in Skylark Theatre's production of *As One*. Photo courtesy of VeraMarinerStudio

Come Together "As One"

Minnesota will be premiering a production of *As One* with the Skylark Opera Theatre at the North Garden Theatre in St. Paul. Playing from March 16-25, *As One* follows the life of a transgender woman named Hannah as she grows up in a small town, moves to the West Coast for college, and finally finds her true self in Norway. Hannah's character features two voices in the chamber opera—Hannah "after" as a mezzo-soprano, and Hannah "before" as a baritone.

The music in *As One* was written by Laura Kaminsky, and the libretto was co-written by Mark Campbell and Kimberly Reed. Reed also wrote the film by the same name.

After playing in theaters across the country including New York City, Denver, Los Angeles, Des Moines, and Anchorage, *As One* is finally taking stage at the Skylark Opera Theatre. According to Skylark Opera Theatre Artistic Director Bob Neu, the Skylark company has been waiting a long time to feature this show on their stage.

"We feel it's a very important new opera that has great relevance to today's world," Neu says. "It's important for Skylark to present material that is relevant to today's world, and it is important for all of the arts to tell stories that encourage an understanding and respect for the human condition."

Skylark is excited to put forth their production of *As One* to showcase the talent of everyone involved. Neu is the stage director, Jeffrey Stirling is the music director, and the cast only consists of two people, Bergen

Baker and Luke Williams. Baker plays Hannah "after," and Williams plays Hannah "before," although they have some surprises in store for the audience and might be appearing on stage together—as one.

Baker and Williams were hired by Skylark based on their experience and acting and vocal skills, says Neu. Some of the members of the *As One* cast and crew identify as GLBT, and Neu says that everyone involved is hopeful that the community will enjoy *As One* and be able to relate to the story that it shares.

According to Opera News, *As One* is gaining popularity for more than just being a transgender opera, but also for its ability to haunt and challenge its audience with questions about identity, authenticity, compassion, and the human desire for self-love and peace.

The show will be opening on Friday, March 16 with performances March 16-18 at 7:30 p.m. Other showtimes include March 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m. To purchase tickets, you can call Skylark Opera Theatre at 612-343-3390 or order them online at www.ticketnetworks.com. For information about parking, visit North Garden Theater's website at www.northgardentheater.com/parking. ■

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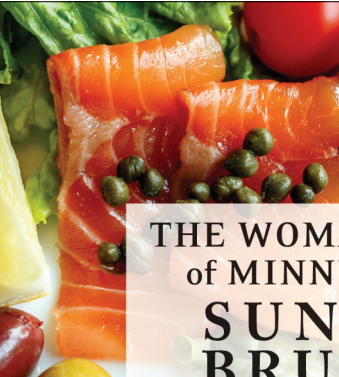
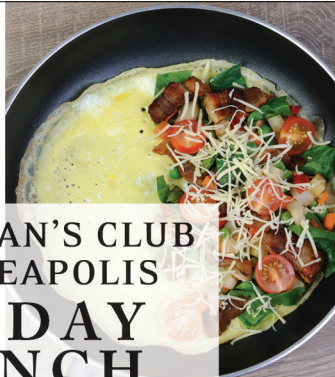


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Emmy-winning CBS 3 Duluth anchor Edward Moody is one of two gay anchors in the Duluth area, and previously worked for WCCO in the Twin Cities. Photo by Jake Armour

Way Up North, Gay Up North

DULUTH NEWSCASTERS DAN HANGER AND EDWARD MOODY SHARE THEIR STORIES OF BEING THE ONLY TWO GAY NEWS ANCHORS IN THE DULUTH AREA.

Dan Hanger of Fox 21 in Duluth grew up in the suburbs of Chicago near the O'Hare Airport. Deciding to stay close to home, Hanger went to Columbia College Chicago where he got a B.A. in broadcast journalism in 2005—a career path that seemed the obvious choice to Hanger.

“Ever since I was a kid, I was obsessed with watching the local news. I loved everything about it: the lighting, sets, graphics, music, stories, anchors, and reporters. It all just naturally fascinated me,” Hanger says.

Throughout his high school years, Hanger toured local news stations where he met some of the anchors and staff, which is how he met some of his friends and his mentor in the field. Due to his clear determination, Hanger landed a job as a web editor in the NBC Chicago newsroom at just 19 years old. He stayed at NBC Chicago, where he published news content for all of the NBC owned-and-operated TV station websites, until he graduated and landed his first gig in Duluth at Fox 21.

Once Hanger got to Duluth, he was excited but hesitant to identify

with the GLBT community. However, after being featured in an article in the Duluth Reader during Pride in 2014, he was able to tell his story and fully express his identity. Since moving to the area in 2006, Hanger has been the grand marshal for the Duluth-Superior Pride Parade and received the Shining Star Award, too.

“It’s nice to be recognized for being out in this town, as it wasn’t easy for me years ago. When I first moved here in 2006, I was very worried to say a single word about being gay. One, I had serious issues with myself about coming out and was not comfortable with it at all and was just scared about what family and friends would think,” he says. “Two, I had the mindset back then that coming out would hurt my career in television. I might not be able to get a bigger anchor job. At that time, there really weren’t any prominent gay anchors who were out that I knew of. And from what I was reading then, I had the mindset that gay journalists might land morning anchor roles, but not main anchor gigs out of fear the station could lose some of its audience.”

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Dan Anchor, a news anchor at KQDS-TV in Duluth, is one of two gay anchors in the Duluth area. Photo courtesy of KQDS-TV

Like Hanger, Edward Moody found his path in broadcast journalism at a young age. At ten years old, Moody was cast as an anchor/reporter for a nationally syndicated news magazine for kids.

"The experience exposed me to the power of asking questions and questioning power," Moody says.

From Kansas City, Missouri, Moody also decided to stay close to home for college and attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City for broadcast journalism. After college, Moody decided it was time to branch out to a new town and moved to Duluth in 2002 to start his first job as a reporter at KBJR-TV.

Unlike Hanger, Moody says he was eager to tie his personal and professional lives together and even tells stories about his husband and in-laws on-air, which he hasn't received any negative feedback for so far.

"My bosses knew I was out on-air when they hired me, which I think speaks to their faith in this community. As a black, gay man, I'm always aware of how people react to me, and I've never felt anything but love from Duluth viewers," Moody says.

Despite Moody's coming out on-air, he says he likes to live a fairly private life with his husband. The couple bought their first home just over a year ago where they're raising their "fur babies," two dogs and two cats. Moody says his life is very similar to anyone else in the Duluth area. His husband enjoys hunting in the fall, and they frequently treat themselves to Sunday brunches with friends.

Hanger and Moody both say that Duluth's GLBT community is vibrant and continues to grow. According to Moody, when he initially moved to Duluth in 2002, the mayor wouldn't even acknowledge the annual Pride celebration, but now Pride kicks off with a mayor's reception every year.

Outside of Pride celebrations, Hanger says that the romantic climate

of Duluth can sometimes make it challenging to date in the GLBT community.

"Duluth has a decent-size gay community for the size of this city, but it's very fragmented. There are the college gays and older gays, but if you are a younger working professional in your 30s (turning 35 here in August), good luck," he says. "It's very, very difficult to date. I believe it's the same feeling for the straight community, but clearly more difficult for the gay community. As for the acceptance level, I never feel unwelcome here."

Hanger and Moody have enjoyed their time in Duluth, though Moody spent some time bouncing around other cities. After working in New York and Indiana, Moody and his husband made their way back to Minnesota after he took a job at WCCO in Minneapolis where he won an Emmy for his morning show. The couple eventually realized that they missed their Duluth life and moved back after two years in Minneapolis.

Hanger has a contract with Fox 21 through the end of 2019, so he is just taking it one day at a time and enjoying the community.

"You never know what can happen. Will they renew? Should I move on? I try to take one day at a time, but there is a sense of mid-life crisis coming on. Turning 35, still on the single train, and just might finally want to make some bigger dollars than what this market pays. I'm always open to change, but I also treasure what I have here," Hanger says.

Hanger and Moody are both hopeful that broadcast journalism will open its newsrooms to more diversity, especially with regard to the GLBT community.

"My greatest hope is that as queer representation grows in journalism, and it is, it becomes increasingly more inclusive. Too often our representation doesn't reflect the diversity of perspectives within the GLBT community," Moody says. "If nearly 16 years in journalism has taught me anything, it's the need for perspective outside of your own." ■

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Buster is Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018



The five contestants for Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018, left to right: Dickie; Broadway Baby; Buster, Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018; Drew; and Cerberus. Photo by Steve Lenius.

This year's Mr. Twin Cities Leather (TCL) 2018 weekend was held at The Saloon from Friday, Feb. 16, to Sunday, Feb. 18. Sponsored by Twin Cities Leather & Latte, The Saloon, and The Nicollet Diner, the weekend attracted local community members, but also many out-of-town visitors.

Friday evening's traditional Meet & Greet was followed by SpANK, a special leather edition of The Saloon's popular Tank night. Saturday afternoon was devoted to Kink U educational events presented by the Titans of the Midwest: a panel discussion on people of color in the leather/BDSM/fetish community (see sidebar), followed by classes on impact play; a ball dance; navigating sex with transgender partners; and a puppy mosh.

Saturday evening's contest and show was co-emceed by Karri Plowman and drag diva Bad Karma. The weekend's five contestants each, in their speeches and talent-portion performances, shared their stories and bared their souls to an uncommon degree. At the end of the evening, Buster was sashed as the new Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018.

At Sunday's Victory Brunch, which was catered by The Nicollet Diner, the Robert "Bobbie" Smith Community First! Award was presented to Holly Kraft, a tireless behind-the-scenes community worker who is the new board chair of Minnesota Leather Pride.

Judges for the weekend were Emerson Kellogg, Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2016; Girl Complex, International Ms. Leather 2017; Tysha Best, Media Director, International Mr. Leather, Inc.; Joe King, Mr. Leather Europe 2016 and 2nd Runner Up, International Mr. Leather 2017; Dan Beach, Mr. Minneapolis Eagle 2007; Ross Ransom, Mr. Louisiana Leather 2017; Alexandra Gray, Ms. Iowa Leather 2016; and Nitro Hankinson, International Leatherboy 2011. Tallymasters were Michael Kramer, Mr. DC Eagle 2011, and Ryan "Pawlish" Garner-Carpenter, International Mr. Bootblack 2017.

As Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018, Buster will represent Twin Cities Leather & Latte and Minnesota's leather community in the 40th annual International Mr. Leather competition (www.imrl.com), May 24–28, 2018 (Memorial Day weekend), in Chicago. ■



Members of the People of Color Leather Discussion Panel. Front row, left to right: Rod McCoy, Steven Patton (moderator), Alexandra Gray, Tysha Best, and Ryan Garner-Carpenter. Back row, left to right: Girl Complex and Ivan Nunez. Photo by Steve Lenius

PEOPLE OF COLOR SPEAK OUT

One overarching theme of the Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2018 weekend was community diversity. Outgoing Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2017 Ryan Coit created photographs for the weekend's promotional materials that featured many different skin colors. Many different skin colors and ethnicities also could be seen on the contest's judging panel and in the audience.

Saturday afternoon's Kink U classes got started with a panel discussion on what people of color (POC) want non-POCs to know. Panelists were from California, Iowa, Florida, Washington, D.C., and the Twin Cities.

One recurring theme of the panel discussion, first brought up by Tysha Best but echoed by other panelists, was the exhaustion of being different, non-mainstream, non-default, the other. White people do not have to do the exhausting work of constantly negotiating their physical and social surroundings as a person of color needs to. White people do not have to do the work of constantly representing their race or ethnic group. White people do not have to endure questions about their ethnicity and educate those asking the questions. White people do not have to constantly defend and justify their right to be at an event or in a community. These pressures are especially exhausting for people of color when they are the token POC at an event, invited in the name of "diversity." True diversity is more than one. A mix of skin colors and ethnicities, as was seen at this year's Mr. TCL weekend, allows everyone to be themselves, celebrate, and have fun, rather than having to do the emotional and physical work of representing. One thing white people can do for people of color is to empathize with them and speak up for them. Someone who says or does something racist, whether casual or overt, might not listen to protests from a person of color, but they might listen to the same protests from a white person.

White people need to accept that there is such a thing as white privilege, and that they have that privilege and benefit from it. In the words of panel moderator Steven Patton, "Until you understand and accept your role in white privilege, you really can't do anything to dismantle it and help anybody else."

A question from the audience asked if we could not all just enjoy each other as fellow human beings, irrespective of skin color, and not judge one another. Rod McCoy's response was that because of differences in skin color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or even HIV status, people are treated in ways that are less than human. And that is why we need to have these conversations. Ivan Nunez further commented that, while humanity can be seen as a great unifying factor, humanity is also about the incredible differences and variety among us, and celebrating those differences.

The Leather Journal maintains an online worldwide listing of leather/BDSM/fetish community clubs, organizations, publications, events calendars, and other resources at www.theleatherjournal.com/op-ed/item/55-club-directory.



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2018 Subaru Crosstrek

In 1968, one of our favorite automotive brands arrived in our country.

A gentleman named Malcolm Bricklin, along with his business partner Harvey Lamm, started distributing small vehicles, such as the Fuji Rabbit scooter and the tiny Subaru 360, to franchises across the country. 50 years later, Subaru continues to be a growing automotive brand that has catered to our community—among many customers they have attracted throughout these past five decades.

Bricklin and Lamm might not have envisioned the GLBT community's love for Subaru back in 1968, but we certainly contributed to the company's success here in America.

We could not find a better way to celebrate Subaru's 50th anniversary in the U.S.A. than to write a review on one of its latest products. How about the new 2018 Crosstrek?

The Crosstrek is based on the Impreza compact hatchback, but given a higher ground clearance and specific equipment to make the Crosstrek drivable in conditions and surfaces an Impreza might not want to go on. It might not have the space of two of our favorite Subarus—the Outback and Forester—but it fits perfectly for those who have active lifestyles and just need enough space for adventures that do not require a lot of cargo space to accomplish.

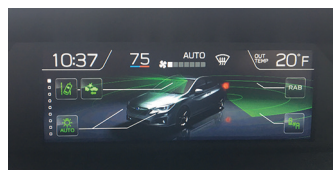
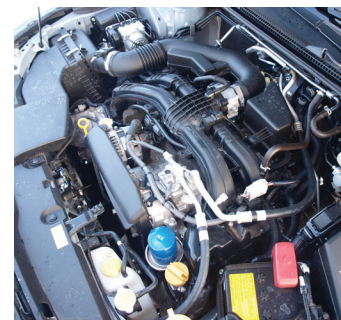
The differences between the Impreza 5-door and Crosstrek are easily found on the outside. The Crosstrek gains a different grille texture, plus cladding around the wheel arches and on the rocker panel, and different front and rear bumpers designed for use away from the tarmac. The most visual difference is the 8.7-inch ground clearance—a 3.6-inch lift from the regular Impreza. The wheels and tires are taller compared to the Impreza. While the Impreza 2.0i Limited rides on a set of 17-inch wheels and 50 aspect tires, our Crosstrek 2.0i Limited gets larger 18-inch wheels and a 55-aspect tire that is also wider.

In all, the Crosstrek looks ready to be taken anywhere. The advantage of its smaller size would be the possibility of taking it where larger vehicles will not be able to go. Narrow bridges, for example, along with tighter trails. Even places where snow plows could not get a clear shot through.

Another twist to the Crosstrek's story is where this vehicle is being positioned in the marketplace. With a growing number of subcompact SUVs and crossovers, the Crosstrek fits within this category perfectly on the outside. Sizewise, it is comparable to another vehicle that is popular with our local GLBT community—the Mitsubishi Outlander Sport.

Step inside and you will experience the same award-winning interior shared with the Impreza. There are also some marked differences between the two. For example, the center screen sitting on top of the dashboard has a couple of specific screens for the Crosstrek—two that show what Subaru calls “vehicle systems operations.” One screen shows the all-wheel drive system operation, along with a degree that the vehicle is driving; the other shows the status of every driver assistance feature on the Crosstrek.

The instrumentation binnacle is clean, with a nice color TFT screen in-between the two dials. A clean touchscreen for Subaru's Starlink infotainment system that can also function for smartphone connectivity, including Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and Subaru's own Starlink app interface. Our tester came with an eight-speaker Harmon Kardon sys-



tem powered by a 432-watt amplifier.

The front seats are sizeable and supportive. Nicely sized bolsters on the Limited model help lock in both driver and front passenger securely. Rear seat room is great for people about just over six-feet tall. It is really made for four adults, but you can have three children in the rear. Cargo space starts with 20.8 cubic feet behind the rear seats, expandable to 55.3 cubic feet with those seats folded down.

If one detail stands out in our Crosstrek Limited tester, it is the orange stitching that accents the high-quality black interior. In all, this is a high-quality place to explore wherever you point the Crosstrek.

Underneath the hood is the 2.0-liter version of Subaru's horizontally opposed—er, boxer—four-cylinder engine. The 152-horsepower engine puts out more than what the numbers tell you. It is a smooth operator that pulls the Crosstrek nicely anywhere. The Lineartronic continuously

variable transmission bridges this engine with Subaru's Symmetrical all-wheel drive system.

To enhance this driveline, there is the X-Mode button, which uses the system and the Vehicle Dynamic Control feature to enhance traction and grip on less-than-ideal surfaces. You will need X-Mode once you leave the highway and whenever snow and ice are present.

In terms of fuel economy, we saw an average of 27.1 MPG in our care.

The Crosstrek may be a small hatchback with an 8.7-inch ground clearance, but its long 104.9-inch wheelbase supplies a very smooth ride that absorbs potholes and other road hazards very well. Handling is pretty good for a high-riding vehicle. It can take corners, but will not exhibit roll and lean through them. It is also quite maneuverable through hazards, thanks to its smaller size.

Steering is not bad for the most part. It exhibits tighter turns with good response from the wheel. On-center feel is light, however. Brakes are superb, with solid stops in normal and panic situations. It also does a great job during winter maneuvers, using several technologies that assist in precise stops.

Our tester came with the available Eyesight system, which uses two cameras to help its suite of active safety features to work optimally. These features include Adaptive Cruise Control, Automatic Pre-Collision Braking, Lane Departure and Sway Warning with Lane Keep Assist. Plus, this Crosstrek also came with Reverse Automatic Braking and High Beam Assist. All these systems worked superbly in our care.

Only three trim levels make up the Crosstrek lineup. The base 2.0i is priced from \$21,795. Our top-of-the-line and fully loaded 2.0i Limited tester came with a sticker price of \$30,665.

Even with some of our test findings, there is a lot to love about the new 2018 Subaru Crosstrek. We love its ability to get through anything and the fun it will return as you go off on your adventure—even if it's a heavy downpour between you and the grocery store. Or, a date in a middle of a snowfall.

As we look back at 50 years of Subaru, we now know how much they have grown from a niche brand—including our niche—to a mainstream brand with vehicles built for all seasons and conditions. If one product speaks to today's Subaru, it is the one you send off on an adventure with just you, your friend/spouse/significant other, your pet (Subaru suggests a dog), and the things you will need to go somewhere. It all fits inside of the capable and fun 2018 Crosstrek. ■



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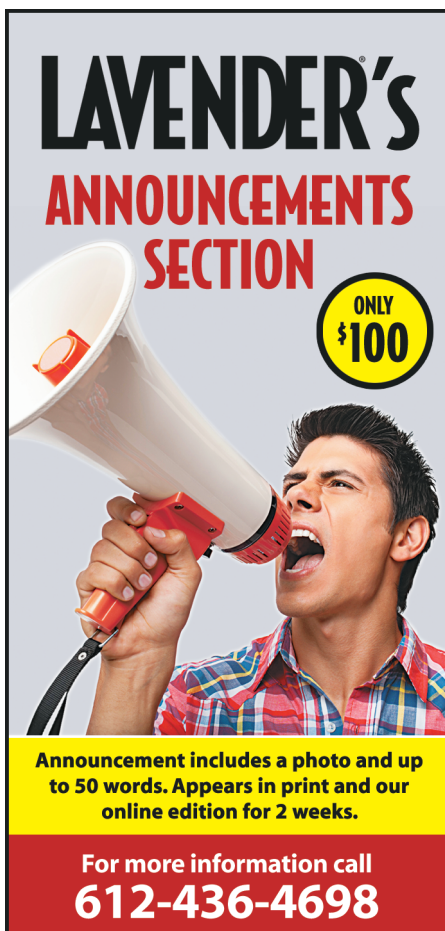
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Idealism Buoyed Hundredfold: Part 2

Last month, I wrote about my plan to travel across the South to speak about hope with the goal of figuring out if my idealism actually means anything.

I took that trip.

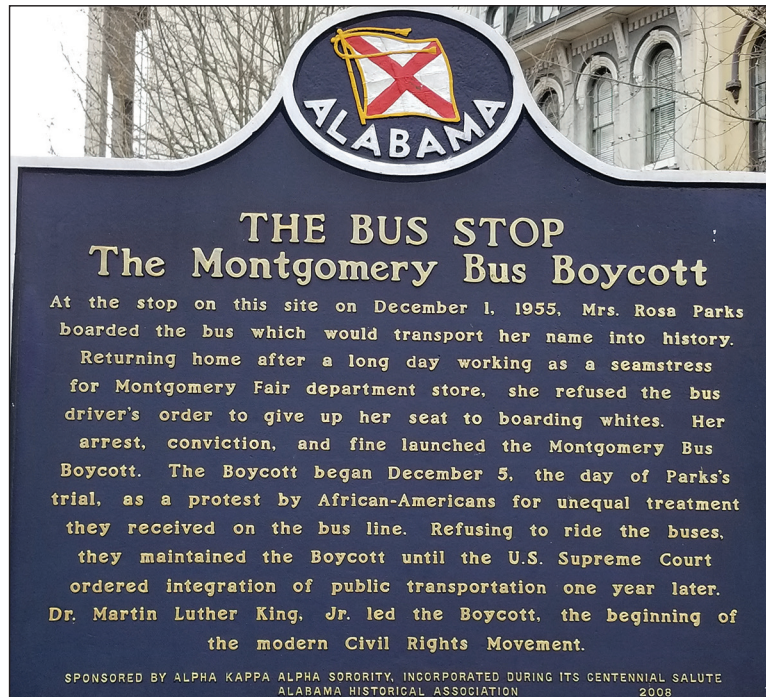
Over the course of ten days I drove nearly 3300 miles—much by interstate but several hundred miles were on two-lane blacktops through Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. I got a sense of our country, this place we call America, and came to better understand how no one group has the market cornered on suffering or fear.

Or hope.

Along the way, I met many inspiring people, like Steve Rygiel, the legal director for Birmingham AIDS Outreach, who provides legal assistance to Alabamians who struggle with blatant discrimination because of their HIV status. Steve spoke of how BAO operates the *only* GLBT medical clinic in an entire state of nearly five million people.

I also met Mary Ann Connell, a grand dame who teaches law at Ole Miss Law School while well into her seventies. She sat in for a “meet and greet” with 20-something Ole Miss GLBT law students and allies where I shared about being a hopeless idealist. Mary Ann, one of the first women to practice law in Oxford, Mississippi, spoke of attending Harvard Law School for a second law degree where she met a lanky young law student named Barack Obama. Later, during the 2008 presidential campaign, she wore a big fat “Elect Obama” button to a meeting of conservative Mississippi women—obviously, pushing envelopes that I can only imagine exist.

Then there was Jami, a non-traditional (e.g. older) first-year law student I met at McKinney Law School in Indianapolis after a “Transgender 101” talk in which I praised the mothers of transgender children as “lionesses” because of how they relentlessly champion their transgender child. Afterward, Jami approached to shake my hand and said, “I’m one of those lionesses, Ellie.” She had



This placard celebrates the famous nonviolent resistance by civil rights icon Rosa Parks.
Photo by Ellen Krug

put her education on hold to protect her trans son (who’s now a college student) as he was growing up in Indiana—a state not known for tolerance.

At a convenience store in rural Georgia, I was reminded of what it means to be the only one of “me” in the room—I walked into a bustling space of 20 or so people to find that I was the only white person in the building. In instant, I felt a palpable and intense feeling of being “other.”

I drove away from the store reminding myself that’s what it’s like to be a person of color in many Twin Cities settings.

In Montgomery, Alabama, I found Court Square, which represents the worst and the best of America. On one side of the square is a placard that describes how, as late as 1859, Montgomery hosted four slave depots and seven slave auctioneers. As I stood there taking in those words, my heart began to hurt.

30 yards away, on the other side of Court Square, is another placard about a bus stop that reads in part, “At the stop on this site on December 1, 1955, Mrs. Rosa Parks boarded the bus which would transport her name into history.” What bravery, what guts.

And what inspiration for me, the hopeless idealist.

Three blocks from Court Square on a hill overlooking downtown Montgomery, the finishing touches were being put on the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, which honors the 4,384 known victims of lynching between 1877 and 1950 in 816 counties across the United States. The memorial is on that hill because that’s where hateful men lynched blacks as part of Jim Crow oppression.

Finally, I was interviewed on Mississippi Public Broadcasting where a caller said that “God doesn’t make mistakes” and advised that I’ll always be male regardless of what I think. He suggested I get used to being marginalized, since it was the religious right of others to do so.

I had expected that call.

What I didn’t anticipate was the several callers who followed, who affirmed the right of GLBT humans to live authentically. “God gives people challenges,” one caller said, equating transgender folks to a child born with a heart defect. “We fix the heart defect and don’t simply accept it,” he related. He went on: I too had the right to “fix” my gender and body when they didn’t work with my brain.

What compassion, from Mississippi no less. It was so unexpected.

The road trip buoyed my idealism hundredfold. Almost everyone wants the same things: for their kids to succeed, to be free of violence, and to have 20 minutes of peace.

Most of all, South or North, Midwest or West, everyone simply wants to love and be loved.

Please remember that. I certainly will.

(Note: You can read about my trip on my blog at www.elliekrug.com.) ■

Ellen (Ellie) Krug is the author of Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honesty and Gender Change (2013). She speaks and trains on diversity and inclusion topics; visit www.elliekrug.com where you can also sign up for her newsletter, The Ripple. She welcomes your comments at ellenkrugwriter@gmail.com.



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Representatives from Bingo A-Go-Go will be on hand to answer your questions about "Royal Wedding Bingo" coming up on April 28th.

PRESENTED BY

SMIRNOFF
 Captain Morgan



Community Connection brings visibility to local GLBT-friendly non-profit organizations. To reserve your listing in Community Connection, call 612-436-4698 or email advertising@lavendermagazine.com.

ADVOCACY

Rainbow Health Initiative

Committed to advancing the health and wellness of LGBTQ communities through research, education and advocacy. 2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 220 Minneapolis, MN 55413 (612) 206-3180 www.rainbowhealth.org

AIDS/HIV INFO & TREATMENT

Aliveness Project, The

Community Center for Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS - On-site Meals, Food Shelf and Supportive Services. 3808 Nicollet Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55409 (612) 824-LIFE (5433) www.aliveness.org

Minnesota AIDS Project AIDSline

Statewide referral service for HIV information & resources including testing, care services, education around PrEP. 2577 Territorial Road St. Paul, MN 55114 Metro: (612) 373-2437 Statewide: (800) 248-2437 mapaidline@mnaidsproject.org www.mnaidsproject.org

U of MN HIV Research Studies

Looking for HIV+ and HIV- individuals to participate in research studies. 420 Delaware St. SE Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-7472 hiv.umn.edu

ANIMAL RESCUE

Second Chance Animal Rescue

Dedicated to rescuing, fostering, caring for, and adopting out dogs and cats into forever homes. P.O. Box 10533 White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (651) 771-5662 www.secondchancerescue.org

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

Twin Cities Quorum

Your GLBTQA chamber of commerce working to invigorate, build & partner for a diverse business community. 18 N. 12th St., Ste. 3606 Minneapolis, MN 55403 (612) 460-8153 www.twincitiesquorum.com

EVENT VENUES

Germanic-American Institute

Germanic-American Institute - Old World Charm as the perfect backdrop for your wedding day. 301 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN 55102 651-222-7027 www.gai-mn.org

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St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 292-3228 www.landmarkcenter.org

Minneapolis City Hall & Court House

Step back in time and enjoy a historically beautiful wedding at the Minneapolis City Hall. 350 S. 5th St. Minneapolis, MN 55415 (612) 596-9518 www.municipalbuildingcommission.org

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Clinic 555, St. Paul

Confidential, low cost sexual health clinic in downtown St. Paul. Now offering PrEP services! 555 Cedar St., Fl. 1 St. Paul, MN (651) 266-1255 clinic555.org

Family Tree Clinic

LGBTQ Health Matters at Family Tree! Offering respectful, affordable sexual health services to meet your needs. 1619 Dayton Ave. St. Paul, MN (651) 645-0478 www.familytreeclinic.org

NAMI Minnesota

(National Alliance on Mental Illness) Providing free classes and peer support groups for people affected by mental illnesses. 800 Transfer Rd. #31 St. Paul, MN 55114 (651) 645-2948 www.namihelps.org

Red Door Clinic

Sexual health care for all people. Confidential tests and treatment in a safe, caring setting. 525 Portland Ave S., 4th Floor Minneapolis, MN 55405 (612) 543-5555 Reddoorclinic.org

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Twin Cities Public Television

Enriching lives and strengthening our community through the power of media. 172 E. 4th St. St. Paul, MN 55101 (651) 229-1330 www.tpt.org

MUSEUM

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Enjoy masterpieces from all over the world and every period of human history. Free admission daily! 2400 3rd Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612) 870-3000 www.artsia.org

Minnesota Historical Society Sites & Museums

Make the Minnesota Historical Society's 26 historic sites and museums part of your vacation plans. www.mnhs.org

MUSIC

Radio K - Real College Radio

Radio K (KUOM) is the award-winning student-run radio station of the University of Minnesota. 610 Rarig Center 330 21st Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-3500 www.RadioK.org

PERFORMING ARTS

Children's Theatre Company

Children's Theatre Company creates theatre that educates, challenges and inspires. Values: Imagination, Excellence, Respect, Inclusion. 2400 3rd Ave. S Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612) 874-0400 http://www.childrenstheatre.org

Hennepin Theatre Trust

Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres Twin Cities' best live entertainment: Broadway shows, music concerts, comedy, dance and more! Minneapolis, MN 1-800-982-2787 www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org

Lyric Arts Main Street Stage

A professional theater that entertains, educates, stimulates & reflects the diverse perspectives of our audience & artists. 420 E. Main St. Anoka, MN 55303 (763) 422-1838 info@lyricarts.org www.lyricarts.org

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

Hosting, presenting, and creating performing arts and educational programs that enrich diverse audiences. 345 Washington St. St. Paul, MN (651) 224-4222 www.ordway.org

Minnesota Opera

World-class opera draws you into a synthesis of beauty: breathtaking music, stunning costumes, and extraordinary sets. Performances at the Ordway Music Theater - 345 Washington St., St. Paul, MN 55102 (612) 333-6669 mnopera.org

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus

An award-winning chorus building community through music and offers entertainment worth coming out for! 528 Hennepin Ave., Ste. 307 Minneapolis, MN (612) 339-SONG (7664) chorus@tcgmc.org www.tcgmc.org

PRIDE

Twin Cities Pride

Producers of the third-largest national Pride celebration seeks sponsors, volunteers, board members. Contact us today. 2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 402-7 Minneapolis, MN 55413 (612) 255-3260 www.tcpride.org

RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL

Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church

Everyone is welcome at Hennepin Church! Vibrant Worship. Authentic Community. Bold Outreach. 511 Groveland Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55403 (612) 871-5303 www.hennepinchurch.org

Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis

Spiritual, Loving, Relevant, Transforming. Find us on Facebook and Twitter 1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin Minneapolis, MN (612) 871-7400 www.plymouth.org

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

"St. Paul's Without Walls". Come and experience the embrace of YES! Worship 9:30 a.m. Sundays. 34 10th Ave. S. Hopkins, MN 55343 (952) 938-4683 www.saintpaulslutheran.org

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

A thoughtful, gracious faith community welcoming all people. Sunday Worship 10am. Child Care, Sunday School. 797 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN (651) 227-6311 www.hohchurch.org

United Methodist Reconciling Churches

Congregations around Minnesota that intentionally welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. www.mnrcumc.org

TRAVEL

Visit Duluth

Lake Superior. Historic waterfront. Vibrant arts & dining. Adventure. Hotels and B&Bs. Attractions and events. 21 W. Superior St., Ste. 100 Duluth, MN (218) 722-4011, (800) 4-DULUTH www.visitduluth.com

Visit Winona

Cool theater, arts and music scene, foodie bliss, outdoor recreation paradise. Surprisingly weird. Incredibly entertaining. 160 Johnson St. Winona, MN 55987 (507) 452-0735 www.visitwinona.com

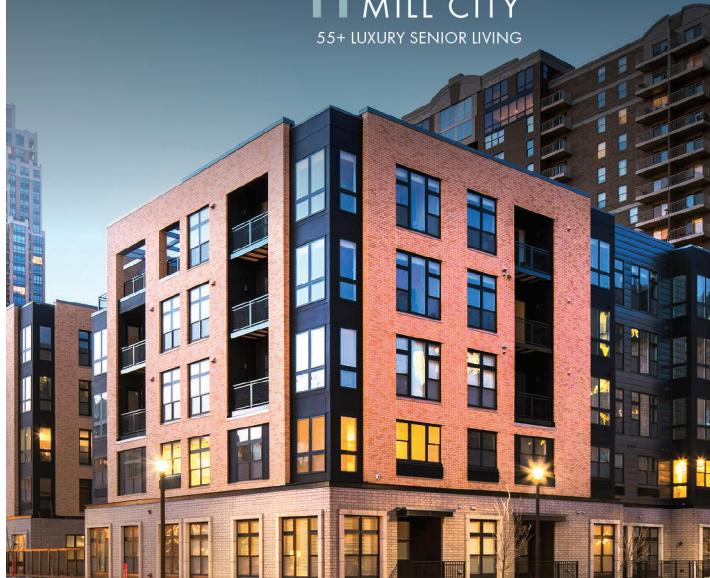
ZOO

International Wolf Center

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